

CLAIMS

WHAT IS CLAIMED:

5           1.     The method for activating the suction holes on rollers of paper  
converting machines or similar products, said holes being in communication with a  
suction chamber made in the rollers and connected by suction means, characterised in  
that it provides the sliding of at least an interposition element between said holes and  
said suction chamber, said interposition element being equipped with a plurality of  
10   interposition holes whereby, as the position of said element varies, at least one part of  
said interposition holes moves from a condition where they are aligned with said suction  
holes, bringing them in communication with said chamber, to a condition where they are  
not aligned with said suction holes, which are thus covered by said interposition  
element.

15           2.     The method according to Claim 1, wherein at least one part of said  
interposition holes is slotted so that they are aligned with said suction holes in two or  
more positions of said interposition element.

          3.     The method according to Claim 1, wherein said sliding is carried out in  
longitudinal direction.

20           4.     The method according to Claim 1, wherein said sliding is carried out in a  
circumferential direction.

5. The device for activating the suction holes on rollers of paper converting machines, said holes being in communication with a suction chamber made in the rollers and connected by suction means, characterised in that it provides at least an interposition  
5 element sliding between said suction holes and said suction chamber equipped with a plurality of interposition holes.

6. The device according to Claim 5, wherein said interposition element is a plate that is housed in a sliding channel made longitudinally in said roller.

7. The device according to Claim 5, wherein said interposition element is  
10 a tubular jacket, slidably engaged between a tubular shell where said suction holes are made, and a core where said suction chambers are made.

8. The device according to Claim 5, wherein at least one part of said interposition holes is slotted so that they are aligned with said suction holes in two or more positions of said interposition element.

15 9. The device according to Claim 7, wherein the surface of said tubular jacket has a plurality of couples of rows of holes arranged longitudinally and having different angular positions, each couple of rows having a different number of interposition holes in order to align a different number thereof to the corresponding suction holes by a circumferential sliding movement.

10. The device according to the previous claims, wherein means are provided for changing quickly the relative position of said interposition element and the suction holes of said roller.

11. The device according to claim 10, wherein said means for changing  
5 comprise screws for adjusting the relative position between said interposition element and the suction holes of said roller.